

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Office of Fire and Aviation
3833 South Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705-5354**

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To: State Directors
State Fire Management Officers

From: Director, Office of Fire and Aviation

Subject: Technical Fire Management Training - Substitution for RX-310 Fire Effects

The purpose of this bulletin is to identify a creditable educational substitution for the RX-310 Fire Effects course developed by the National Wildfire Coordination Group (NWCG). This course is now required training for several prescribed fire positions as listed in the BLM *Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations*.

Since 1985 the BLM has been an active participant in the Technical Fire Management (TFM) program offered by Washington Institute (a private vendor). A curriculum review by the BLM Training Unit revealed a significant duplication of training material content and course format between the Fire Effects and Landscape Ecology module in TFM and the NWCG course RX-310 Fire Effects. In fact, the course content of the two-week TFM module exceeds the course content in the one-week RX-310 Fire Effects course. Completion of both courses would be redundant and an inefficient use of limited training funds.

Effective immediately, successful completion of the TFM module Fire Effects and Landscape Ecology shall be considered a creditable educational substitution for the RX-310 Fire Effects course offered by the NWCG. This new training standard is to be retroactive and recognized by all BLM fire training personnel in determining basic qualifications.

Questions regarding the Incident Qualifications and Certification System should be directed to Rick Jensen at (208) 387-5710. If you have any further questions regarding the Technical Fire Management program, please contact Ted Mason at (208) 387-5336.

Signed by:
Timothy M. Murphy
Acting Director
Office of Fire and Aviation

Authenticated by:
Pat Lewis
Supervisory Mgmt. Asst.
Office Services

Distribution:

Jay Thietten, Room 5627, MIB
Anne Jeffery, Room 5627, MIB
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